

Park Safety Update

G4S Park Security
Program Review



City Council Strategic Priorities



Safe & Secure
Communities



Strong Community
Connections



Quality of Life



Sustainable Growth
& Development



Financial Stability
& Vitality

1.23: Achieve rating of “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with the “Feeling of Safety in Parks” greater than or equal to the top 10% of the national benchmark cities as measured in the Community Survey

Presentation Overview

- Background
- Implementation
- Impact on Performance Measure
- Outcomes
- Impact on Resources
- Park Security Options

Background

- Community Survey – Feelings of safety in parks was trending down; complaints to City Council, PD & Parks were up
- In October 2018, a pilot Parks Security Program was initiated and formally continued in January 2019

Implementation



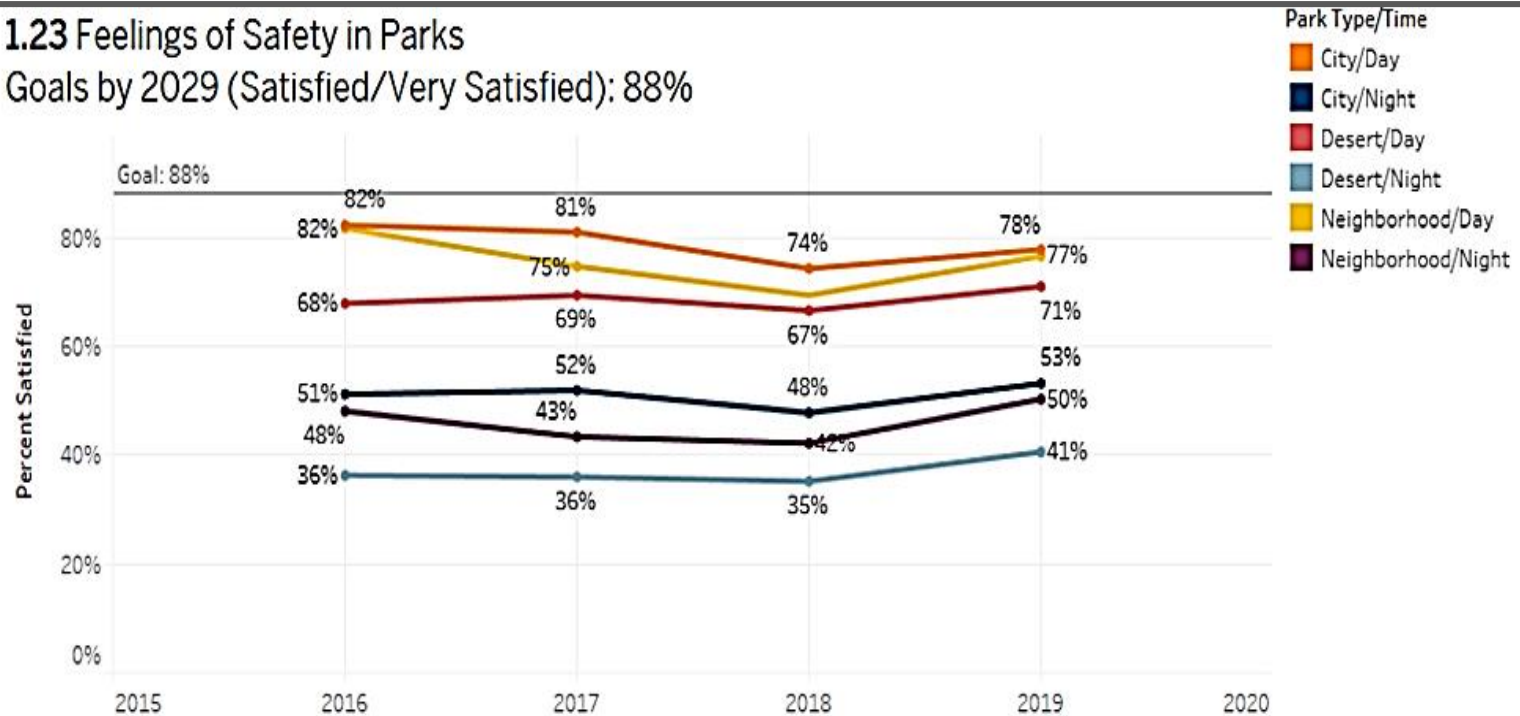
- The Parks Security Program was designed to
 - Provide a visual presence to deter crime and other violations
 - Instill a sense of safety for parks visitors
 - Establish relationships with frequent park visitors
 - Provide connections to Human Services, Tempe Fire Medical Rescue, Tempe Police Department, or Parks Maintenance
- The program was assigned to the Tempe Police Department Field Operations Division
- G4S personnel selected for the program underwent extensive training

Performance Measure



1.23 Feelings of Safety in Parks

Goals by 2029 (Satisfied/Very Satisfied): 88%



Outcomes



- Residents' feeling of safety in parks increased
- Tempe Police Department calls for service, general offense reports, street checks and arrests in parks trended downward
- G4S became an expansion of the **holistic human services system of care**

Impact on Resources



- Tempe Police Officers assigned to Patrol, Central City (Bike Squad) and the Mounted Unit is 150 with limited capacity to proactively patrol parks
 - G4S personnel complete **3,925** proactive park checks over 5.5 months in 2020
 - Tempe Police Officers completed **562** proactive park 8 months in 2020
- This program allowed for an **increase in uniformed park security patrols** and an increase in community contact(s) and interaction.

Park Security Options



Currently unfunded for FY 2021

1. Maintain status quo; reactive park security response w/PD patrol officers
2. Reinstitute a Park Ranger Program
 - In 2010, one Park Ranger FTE cost \$54,474; program eliminated (7 positions) due to the economic crisis at the time. 7 position program in 2010 cost: **\$381,318**.
 - Most similar position in 2020 is **Police Aide; 1 FTE \$67,857; 7 positions + Sworn Sgt (\$187,117) [to match G4S deployment] = approx. \$729,973**
 - Prolonged go-live date due to hiring, background, equipping, training (1 yr or more)
3. G4S continued coverage of 22 hours/day 7 days/week
 - Will cost approx. **\$400,000** (8-10 officers specially trained officers w/Supv); **immediate re-implementation possible**.
 - **Proven track record; Recognized as part of COT Human Svcs continuum of care; existing infrastructure; Specialized Training (Mental Illness, De-Escalation, Implicit Bias, Report Writing, Scenario Based Examinations)**

Questions